

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/IB 02/04853

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
 IPC 7 G12B21/00 G12B21/02 G01B7/34

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
 IPC 7 G12B G01B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC, COMPENDEX

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 00 19494 A (XIDEX CORP) 6 April 2000 (2000-04-06) page 4, line 10 - line 16 page 4, line 20 - line 25 page 4, line 29 -page 5, line 7 page 9, line 19 -page 10, line 6 page 10, line 12 - line 14 claims 1,25,56 figures 2A-2E,3A-3D	26-30
Y A	---	31 1-25 -/-

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex.

## \* Special categories of cited documents :

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the International filing date
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- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed

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\*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

Date of mailing of the International search report

17 February 2003

26/02/2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	VETTIGER P ET AL: "The Millipede-more than one thousand tips for future AFM data storage" IBM JOURNAL OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, IBM CORPORATION, ARMONK, US, vol. 44, no. 3, May 2000 (2000-05), pages 323-340, XP002194187 ISSN: 0018-8646 cited in the application the whole document ---	31
A	US 5 773 921 A (GROSSE-WILDE HUBERT ET AL) 30 June 1998 (1998-06-30) column 5, line 20 -column 6, line 6 figures 1-4 ---	1-25

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

patent family members

PCT/IB 02/04853

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		EP	1135792 A1		26-09-2001
		JP	2002526354 T		20-08-2002
		WO	0019494 A1		06-04-2000
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US 5773921	A 30-06-1998	DE	4405768 A1		24-08-1995
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		WO	9523424 A1		31-08-1995
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		EP	0801805 A1		22-10-1997